

**REMARKS**

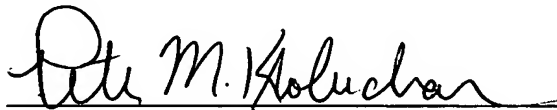
Claims 1-25 are pending in this Application. In the Office Action, Claims 1-8 and 11-18, 20-25 were rejected; Claims 9 and 10 were objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. By this Response, Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of Claim 9; Claims 8 and 9 are cancelled; Claim 10 is amended to depend from Claim 1; Claim 24 is amended to correct typographical errors and include the tapered metering pin limitation; and Claim 25 is also cancelled. These amendments are intended to put the application in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits the Application is condition for allowance, and respectfully request timely notice of same. If deficiencies remain, the Examiner may contact the undersigned to facilitate allowance of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 22, 2006

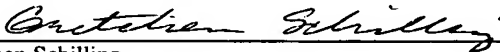
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with first class postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
on June 22, 2006



Gretchen Schilling  
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